NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
NEWS

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Oral History Highlighted During National Library Week

Dr. Stanhope Bayne-Jones, Brigadier General (ret.), U. S. Army Reserve Medical Corps, presented to the Library the five Yale-blue-bound volumes containing the transcript of his tape-recorded memoirs, in a brief ceremony on April 18.

The presentation marked the completion in the first of a series of Oral History Projects supported by the Library (*NLM News*, July 1966). On April 11, 1966 Dr. Bayne-Jones and Dr. Harlan B. Phillips, a pioneer in this new and exacting field, began a mutual exploration of Dr. Bayne-Jones' personal papers, records, publications, and memory. Together, they worked through 51 1/2 formal interview hours and unnumbered hours of informal consultation. They edited an initial transcript of 1,377 pages. The final transcript, an index to the transcript, and a catalog of 14 boxes of personal papers are included in the bound volume.

Dr. John B. Blake, Chief, History of Medicine Division (left), with Dr. Bayne-Jones and Dr. Phillips.

"Through tape-recorded, in-depth interviews by trained historians like Dr. Phillips," said NLM Director Martin M. Cummings, M.D., "we hope to capture the significant knowledge of outstanding individuals in medical-related sciences -- knowledge which is available in no other form, and which, by its very nature, cannot be adequately reconstructed by other means."

Dr. Bayne-Jones, Chairman of the Advisory Editorial Board on the History of Preventive Medicine in the U. S. Army in World War II, has been one of NLM's most distinguished scholars-in-residence for several years. A graduate of Yale University, Dr. Bayne-Jones received the M.D. degree from Johns Hopkins University Medical School in 1914; since then, he has achieved eminence, not only as a physician and a soldier, but also as an educator and researcher. He served as Dean of the Yale University School of Medicine from 1935 to 1940, after more than ten years as Professor of Immunology and Bacteriology.

(Continued on Page 2)

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Dr. Phillips, the interviewer, has been actively engaged in such archival scholarship since 1952, when he was a member of Columbia University's Oral History Research Office. Dr. Phillips' book, *Felix Frankfurter Reminisces*, based on tape-recorded talks with Supreme Court Justice Frankfurter, has been a best seller since its appearance in 1960.

Dr. John B. Blake, Chief of the History of Medicine Division, addressed the scholars-in-residence at the Library and NLM staff attending the ceremony. He said: "Oral history is an exacting technique, requiring on the part of the interviewer a skill and perception that enable him to gain the sympathetic cooperation of the person interviewed, as well as a lot of persistent research in order to know what questions to ask. It requires on the part of the person interviewed an ability and willingness to search his memory for the recall of events or feelings long past, an understanding and sympathy with the purposes of the program and with the purposes of history, and above all generosity of time and mental effort, frank and honest expression, and seasoned judgment. We commend the high standards of quality and scholarship set by Dr. Phillips.

"The Library is already indebted to Dr. Bayne-Jones for the gift of a number of significant rare books by Leeuwenhoek, Redi, and others whose works bear an important relationship to the history of his own field of microbiology, as well as a collection of books by and about the physician and revolutionary, Jean Paul Marat (*NLM News*, June 1966). The memoirs of Dr. Bayne-Jones, with its accompanying gift of personal papers, adds greatly to our indebtedness and to the indebtedness of future historians."

The five volumes, of which only three sets exist, along with all of Dr. Bayne-Jones' papers, will be made available to qualified scholars and investigators at NLM, as stipulated by Dr. Bayne-Jones. The full record of this joint effort will also be preserved -- the tapes themselves, the typed transcripts, and supplementary original material -- in company with Dr. Bayne-Jones' own records of his long and brilliant career.

Artificial Kidney Bibliography

A new quarterly bibliography is now being produced by MEDLARS for the National Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases. Copies of the *Artificial Kidney Bibliography* are available on request from: Scientific Communications Office, NIAMD, Building 31, NIH, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.

New Exhibit -- "2000 Years of Mental Illness"

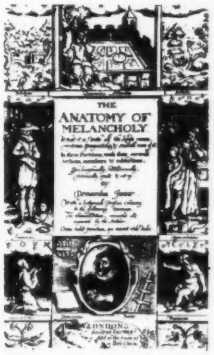
Now on display at NLM is an exhibit entitled "2000 Years of Mental Illness," featuring rare and specially selected books and photoprints from the Library's History of Medicine Division.

The pictorial material is reproduced from holdings in the HMD Prints and Photographs Collection. There are vivid portrayals by Pieter Brueghel the Elder of the dancing mania known in medieval and Renaissance Europe, and a scene in Bethlem, London's unique public hospital, by William Hogarth, from his *Rake's Progress* (1735). Among the therapeutic measures illustrated is Benjamin Rush's "Recommended Tranquilizing Chair" (1810), which featured rigid restraints applied to head, limbs, and torso. Contemporary artists' impressions of mental illness are also represented in the work of Robert Riggs and Edward Hill, among others.

*Dr. Cummings (l) and Dr. Blake examine an electrode from a ca. 1880 Magneto-Electric Machine.**

Volumes on display range from the *De Medicina* (Venice, 1493) of Celsus, physician-writer of the ancient world, to the *Works* of Thomas Sydenham (1624-1689), and William Battie's *A Treatise on Madness* (London, 1758), an early indictment of contemporary maltreatment of lunacy.

**The machine (courtesy of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology) was used in the "treatment of tic douloureux, neuralgia and other nervous disorders."*



Selected reproductions from NLM's 2000 Years of Mental Illness Exhibit.

Two NLM Speakers at Pittsburgh Meeting

The Second Conference on Electronic Information Handling, held in Pittsburgh, April 12-14, 1967, included two NLM staff members among its speakers: Dr. Joseph Leiter, Associate Director for Intramural Programs (speaking for Dr. Cummings), and Mr. F. Wilfrid Lancaster, of the NLM Information Systems Division.

Dr. Cummings' paper, "Needs in the Health Sciences," reviewed plans for the development of a medical library network. He emphasized the need for realistic measurements of service costs to facilitate the development of new, and expansion of existing, information systems. The paper described a recent unit-cost study of MEDLARS conducted by the Library's Budget Officer, Mr. James G. Hill, which attempts to determine the full operating costs of MEDLARS.

Mr. Lancaster spoke on "Problems in the Evaluation of a Large Operational Retrieval System," discussing chiefly the MEDLARS Evaluation Project being conducted under his direction (see *NLM News*, October 1966).

Publications

The *National Library of Medicine Catalog*, published annually from 1956 to 1965, has made its final appearance as a sexennial cumulation incorporating all NLM catalog cards issued from 1960 through 1965. The six-volume set may be ordered from Rowman and Littlefield, Inc., 84 - 5th Avenue, New York, New York 10011, for $73.50, (f.o.b. Totowa, N.J.)

It should be emphasized that NLM is distributing no copies of the sexennial catalog on exchange or as gifts. All copies must be ordered from the publishers.

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The first annual cumulation of the *NLM Current Catalog* (1966) is available at $4.50 a copy from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. The 1,060-page volume is divided into a Subject Section and an Author/Title Section.

* * *

Medical librarians who were unable to obtain the *Cumulated Index Medicus* for recent years may wish to replace dog-eared, soiled *IM* issues with clean ones from NLM stock. The Library can supply scattered issues for 1960 and 1961, and all issues for 1962-65.

Also available to medical libraries are replacement copies of *Biomedical Serials*, 1950-1960 and issues of the *Bibliography of Medical Reviews* (except No. 9).

Any of these publications may be requested from the Office of the Assistant to the Director, National Library of Medicine, 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20014.